

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 5, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 7 with the word "FIG." and ends on line 23 with the word "mask." with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 1 shows a respiratory mask **10** that has a mask body **12** that includes a nose portion **14**, a chin portion **16**, and first and second cheek portions **18** and **20**, respectively. Mask **10** fits over a wearer's nose and mouth ~~of a person~~ but not over their eyes, and hence is often referred to as a "half mask". A harness **21** that includes a carriage **22** is attached to the mask body **12** at the location of a central opening (not shown). An exhalation valve (also not shown) is disposed in the central opening to enable exhaled air to be purged from the mask interior. The harness **21** also includes at least one strap **24** that is attached to the carriage **22** to assist in supporting the mask body **12** on the face of a wearer when in use. Strap **24** may engage a buckle **26** that enables open ends of the strap to be secured together for maintaining a proper fit over the person's nose and mouth. The strap **24** may be slidably threaded through guide-ways in the carriage **22** so that its length can be adjusted accordingly. The strap also could be permanently attached if desired. Respiratory mask **10** also includes first and second filter cartridges **28** and **30** for filtering air before it is inhaled by the wearer. The filter cartridges **28** and **30** may include particulate and/or gaseous filter media for removing vapors and/or airborne particulates, respectively. Because the wearer's lungs are used to draw breathable air through the filter cartridges, the mask **10** is referred to as a "negative pressure" half mask.